Inventor: Akira MATSUI et al. Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 6, and 8-10 are pending in the present application; Claims 5, 6, and 10 are amended and Claims 1-4, 7, and 11 are canceled by the present amendment.

The present application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/812,547, filed March 21, 2001.

In the Office Action mailed March 19, 2003, in the parent application No. 09/812,547, Claims 5 and 10 were objected to; and Claims 5, 6, and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0013995 A1 to <u>Jeong</u>.

Regarding the objection to the claims, Claims 5 and 10 are amended in accordance with suggestions in the Office Action mailed March 19, 2003. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

Claims 5, 6, and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by <u>Jeong</u>. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Jeong has a filing date of January 24, 2001, which is later than the filing date of the claimed foreign priority document JP 2000-290920 filed on September 25, 2000. Therefore, to overcome this rejection, an English translation of JP 2000-290920 will be filed in due course.

In addition, Claim 6 is amended to be in independent form. It is believed no new matter is added.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted Claims 5, 6, and 8-10 are allowable upon submission of the above noted certified translation.

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Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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